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MR. PRESIDENT :—" I gather that the Council will have to sit in June. If so, will the Hon. Minister for Public Works consider the feasibility of introducing air-conditioning in the House?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I do not know whether that will be possible."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The Hon. Leader of the House has given notice of a motion to take into consideration the draft of the new Constitution of India. When will the House like to take it, to-morrow or the day after? The Hon. Leader of the House will not be present from the 27th April."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, that may be taken up as soon as the Bills pending before the House are over. As far as I am concerned, I will be present here till the 26th. On the 27th, myself and the Premier have to leave for Delhi. We will be returning after four days."

DR. SYED TAJUDDIN SAHIB BAHADUR :—" Are we sitting the whole of to-morrow, because it is a lunar eclipse day?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The eclipse is not visible in this part of the world. So, the matter may as well be ignored."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I will include the item in to-morrow's agenda after the items relating to Bills."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Extent of cultivable and cultivated lands in the districts.

11 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of wet lands in each district of the Province, the extents on which paddy and sugarcane were respectively raised and the extent which is left uncultivated, during the last three faslis;

(*b*) the quantity of paddy produced in each district in each of the three faslis;

(*c*) the extent of dry cultivable lands in each district of the Province, the extent on which millets and other food crops was raised, the extent on which commercial crops such as groundnuts, cotton, tobacco is raised, together with details thereof, during the above period and also the extent of dry cultivable area left uncultivated; and

(*d*) the quantity of each variety of foodgrain as also of each of the commercial crops produced in each district of the Province during the above period?

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A.—(*a*) Figures showing the extent of wet cultivable land and the extent of wet land which is left uncultivated are not compiled. Appendix IV of the Season and Crop Report published by the Board of Revenue (Civil Supplies) every year shows the area of different irrigated crops including paddy and sugar-cane.

(*b*) & (*d*) The information will be found in Appendix IX of the Season and Crop Report.

(*c*) Figures showing the extent of dry cultivable lands and the extent of dry cultivable area left uncultivated have not also been compiled. Appendix VI of the Season and Crop Report shows the unirrigated area of different crops.

(*Note*.—Copies of the Season and Crop Report for the last three fasli years have been placed on the table of the Legislature Library.)

Bellary Central Co-operative Stores.

12 *Q*.—Sri B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Collector of Bellary issued instructions to the authorities of Bellary Central Co-operative Stores to take delivery of the rice milled in the local factory and issue the same to ration shops in the last week of December 1947;

(*b*) whether the authorities of the Co-operative Stores disobeyed the instructions and distributed paddy received from Tanjore district to the ration shops; and whether the ration shops supplied paddy only to the citizens of Bellary in the last week of December 1947, causing considerable hardship and inconvenience; and

(*c*) what action the Government propose to take in respect of the refusal to carry out the instructions of the Collector by the authorities of the Bellary Central Co-operative Stores?

A.—(*a*) No. The Secretary, Bellary Central Co-operative Stores, Bellary, was informed by the Collector on 10th December 1947 that about 3,000 bags of paddy would be hulled into rice for issue in the statutory rationed area.

(*b*) No. The Bellary Central Co-operative Stores neither refused to carry out the instructions nor disobeyed the Collector. As the stock of rice received in the district exhausted and as the stock of rice hulled

from Tanjore paddy to that date was not enough to meet the requirements of one week, paddy only was released during the last week of December 1947. It may have caused some inconvenience to the public but this could not be helped as the hulled rice had to be exposed to air, bagged and standardized before issue to the retailers.

(c) In view of the answer to (b) above, this does not arise.

Juvenile Court in the City.

13 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Juvenile Court in the city is presided over by men magistrates who are appointed to sit for a certain number of months or only a certain length of time;

(b) whether they are aware there are three ladies who have had experience for 12, 8 and 6 years respectively, in the Juvenile Court continuously more or less; and

(c) if so, why they were not appointed presidents of such courts instead of men magistrates?

A.—(a) The Juvenile Court in the Madras City has been presided over by men magistrates. The term of office of the presiding magistrate has not been fixed.

(b) Yes.

(c) The policy of the Government is to make these appointments according to qualifications and suitability but regardless of sex. The hon. Member is informed that there is no discrimination against women as such.

Students admitted into the various Agricultural Colleges.

14 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students admitted into the various Agricultural Colleges each year during the last twelve years—communitywar, namely, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, Muslims, Indian Christians and Anglo-Indians; and

(b) how many of them have finished the courses and taken their degrees—communitywar in each year?

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A.—(*a*) One thousand and forty-three students were admitted into the Agricultural Colleges during the last 12 years. The communal-war figures are given below :—

Number of candidates admitted into the Agricultural Colleges, Coimbatore and Bapatla.

Year.	Brahmins.	Non-Brahmins.	Muslims.	Christians.	Backward classes.	Anglo-Indians.	Scheduled classes.	Orissa students.	Total.
				Agricultural College, Coimbatore.					
1936 ..	20	5	5	3	10	..	..	..	43
1937 ..	16	12	2	6	6	..	..	..	42
1938 ..	24	7	2	1	10	..	..	..	44
1939 ..	18	6	5	6	14	..	..	..	49
1940 ..	20	9	4	..	11	..	..	..	44
1941 ..	17	9	4	4	9	..	..	..	43
1942 ..	18	10	4	4	11	..	1	..	48
1943 ..	17	11	4	4	11	..	1	..	48
1944 ..	40	30	6	5	13	..	2	..	96
1945 ..	38	37	2	5	14	..	..	..	96
1946 ..	36	62	1	8	..	..	..	..	107
1947 ..	28	57	4	6	..	..	..	..	95
				Agricultural College, Bapatla (opened in July 1945).					
1945 ..	25	64	3	1	..	..	3	..	96
1946 ..	36	46	6	2	..	..	3	3	96
1947 ..	21	56	8	6	..	..	..	5	96
									1,043

(*b*) Four hundred and eighty six candidates finished their courses and taken their degrees during the past 12 years. The communitywar figures are given below :—

The number of candidates passed out of the Agricultural College, a Coimbatore.

Communitywar.

Year.	Brahman.	Non-Brahman (including backward classes).	Muslim.	Christian.	Scheduled Caste.	Total.
1936 ..	11	10	1	4	..	26
1937 ..	13	11	3	1	..	28
1938 ..	11	16	3	1	..	31
1939 ..	16	17	6	2	..	41
1940 ..	14	18	4	3	..	39
1941 ..	13	22	2	2	..	39
1942 ..	22	24	1	3	..	50
1943 ..	16	20	2	..	2	40
1944 ..	12	16	2	3	..	33
1945 ..	16	20	1	2	..	39
1946 ..	15	17	7	3	1	43
1947 ..	35	36	1	5		77
	194	227	33	29	3	a486

a The first batch of students at the Agricultural College, Bapatla, will finish their Degere Course only in April 1948.

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Number of cases under rule 150 of Motor Vehicles Act.

15 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to lay on the table of the House a list of cases, which he has entertained under rule 150 of the rules framed under the Motor Vehicles Act, by way of second appeal or revision at the instance of private parties, and set aside decisions of the Central Traffic Board on appeal—as from 1st May 1946—together with the dates of orders in each case?

A.—The amount of time and labour involved in preparing the answer would be disproportionate to the possible usefulness. Answers could be given for any particular cases specified.

Subvention from the Central Road Fund.

16 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amounts received from the Central Government as subvention from the Central Road Fund during each year commencing from 1st April 1939 up to 1st April 1947; and

(*b*) the amounts paid or spent in each district of the Madras Province in each year since 1st April 1939 from the above fund?

A.—(*a*)—

Years.	Actual expenditure incurred from the allocations of the Central Road Fund.			Actual expenditure met from the Central Road Fund Reserve.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
1939–40	21,09,216	0	7	39,918	1	4
1940–41	17,09,327	3	8	1,906	14	6
1941–42	17,16,207	0	0	—5,531	10	0
1942–43	12,66,928	7	1	7,051	8	2
1943–44	11,89,327	8	4	16,06,005	7	6
1944–45	11,69,331	0	4	907	3	10
1945–46	11,09,859	14	6	6,13,788	11	9
1946–47	6,13,702	13	7	16,25,427	13	9

(*b*) Separate districtwar figures are not available with the Government. They will have to be collected from the various district boards in the Province and will involve considerable delay and labour. The Government do not therefore consider it necessary to obtain the information.